



CITY OF WESTMINSTER

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FLYING HIGH! ART FLAGS FLY BRIGHTLY DOWNTOWN

New marketing campaign promotes arts and culture on Main Street

Westminster, MD – Have you noticed bright blue flags popping up around downtown lately?

Each blue flag along Main Street represents a business or organization that adds value to the Arts and Culture community of Westminster. The flags were developed based on recommendations from the Westminster Arts and Culture Task Force. The Task Force has been working to highlight Westminster arts facilities, businesses, resources and programs and provide focus to these cultural assets.

There are three types of art flags along Main Street. The first type of flag is the “Art Center” flag, which represents Public or Non-Profit Organizations that add to the Arts & Culture Assets of Westminster including but not limited to: visual art, literary art, cultural art and/or musical art. There are three centers of arts and culture along Main Street: the Historical Society of Carroll County is Westminster’s center of heritage and culture; the Carroll County Library is Westminster’s center of literary art and new ideas; the Carroll County Arts Council is Westminster’s center of visual art and musical art.

The second type of flag is the “Art Business” flag. This flag symbolizes the many wonderful arts and culture businesses found along Main Street. These are businesses that sell visual art, literary art or musical art, as well as those that provide art related services such as dance classes or music lessons. The first “wave” of art business flags are found at Sidetracked Antiques & Design, Off Track Art, Carousel Stained Glass, Coffey Music, Ain’t That a Frame, Eclecticity, Birdie’s Café, Unique Jewelry, d.a.n.c.e Inc; with more flags to come at businesses such as the Main Arterie and the Pottery Loft.

The third type of flag is the “Resident Artist Flag,” which is used by residents of the ‘Tri-Street Arts and Culture Neighborhood’ that produce visual art, literary art and/or musical art. The Tri-Street Arts and Culture Neighborhood was formed in the fall of 2010 with the passage of the arts and culture overlay zone, which promotes a mix of artistic, cultural and creative uses and specifically allows for artists to open public studios in their homes along West Main Street, Union Street and Pennsylvania Avenue. The first resident artists, of the Tri-Street Arts and Culture Neighborhood, to participate include Sara Deluca, Ed Maiello and Lyndi McNulty.

Mayor Kevin Utz stated that “Westminster is a city that celebrates and supports its artists, along with its arts and cultural organizations.” The Task Force plans to continue to develop new ways to portray arts and culture as key elements in creating desirable places to live, work and visit in Westminster.

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The City of Westminster Administration Department is located at 56 West Main Street. This department oversees all of the departments in the General Government and is the central location for the City. For more information, call 410-848-9000 or visit www.westminstermd.gov.